

Dr. Usmer, his friend and fellow assistant at the last two schools. He removed his school to Stoke Newington in 1839. Here he published "The Picts or Romano-British Wall," "The Principles and Practice of Linear Perspective;" "The Ascent of Scawfell Pike;" "The Two Estates, or Both Worlds Mathematically Considered;" "Physical Astronomy;" "Taught from Above," and others. His latest work was a pamphlet on Life Assurance, published in 1883. He also published two Orthographic Projections of the World representing the Earth floating in space. In the year 1870 he was chosen one of the party sent out to observe the eclipse of the Sun at Gibraltar; the account of this expedition was published in the *Carlisle Journal* and other papers. On retiring from school business, he was presented with a gold chronometer, a beautifully illuminated album containing portraits of his early friends and pupils, and 1,000 guineas, as a mark of their respect and esteem. The last years of his life were spent at a delightful spot in Burgess Hill, built for him by one of his old pupils. His bodily powers had been gradually failing for two or three years, yet his health and strength were far beyond what is generally expected in a man of his age. He died, after a short illness, at the age of eighty-four, and his remains were interred in Park Street, Stoke Newington, the resting-place of a large number of his early friends. In life he was a most amiable and unselfish man, endeared to a large circle of friends by the refinement of his mind, his patient spirit, and his strict conscientious character. He was a most entertaining companion, possessing a wonderful memory of almost every book he had read, and the kind sympathy that accompanied all his actions won the respect and affection of all who knew him. Mr. Abbatt's favourite studies were mathematics and astronomy, and the pleasant and successful manner he possessed of imparting his own love for these subjects is remembered by many of his early pupils who still survive him.

HENRY GEORGE BOHN was born in London on January 4, 1796. He claimed to be descended from a family of the name of Bohun, who being among the Protestant refugees who passed to the Continent in the reign of Mary, became possessed of estates at Weinheim, on the Rhine. His father, John Henry Martin Bohn, who had served his apprenticeship in Germany, settled in London, and carried on the business of a bookbinder and second-hand bookseller, in which he was assisted by his son.

Mr. Bohn had an early ambition to be a publisher; but not until 1846 did he commence the issue of the reprints and translations which constitute the Standard and other Libraries, and for which his name became so celebrated. It is to the enterprise of Mr. Bohn that we owe the introduction of so much good literature at a low price. His various "Libraries," The Standard, The Scientific, The Illustrated, The Classical, The Antiquarian,

&c., amounted to more than six hundred volumes, and the success which has attended their sale is an indication of the excellence of the publications.

He was a man of great energy, immense power of work, and great shrewdness. Constable had shown that books of a light and popular character would, if sold at a low price, meet with an extensive sale. Mr. Bohn proved that works of a solid cast, such as had been hitherto attainable only at high prices, would excite a remunerative demand if brought out at low rates. He certainly was one of the chief pioneers of cheap literature.

Mr. Bohn, who, for many years, had lived in York Street, Covent Garden, eventually resided entirely at Twickenham, where he devoted himself to gardening, and buying china and pictures.

Mr. Bohn married, in 1831, a daughter of the late Mr. Simpkin, who, with her two sons and daughter, survive him.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on January 11, 1861.

JOHN HENRY DALLMEYER. In the annual report last year the Council were only able briefly to announce their regret at the news of the *décease* of this gentleman, who was for many years a member of this Society. They desire to add some further tribute to one who rendered, by his optical skill, such important service to Astronomy.

Mr. Dallmeyer commenced his career in this country in the employ of the late Mr. Andrew Ross (afterwards his father-in-law), under whose encouragement and tuition he cultivated and manifested his capabilities in both the mechanical and optical departments of his calling. His name was first brought to public notice in Sir John Herschel's article on "The Telescope" (in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 8th edition), in which a list of the most important refractors then known is given, and, as to several, it is noted that Mr. Dallmeyer laid claim "to the personal execution and the computation of their curvatures."

At the death of Mr. A. Ross in 1859, Mr. Dallmeyer started business for himself, confining his attention at first almost entirely to the astronomical telescope; he constructed several very fine object glasses, some of which were employed in the recent eclipse and transit of *Venus* expeditions. He did not construct many large instruments, the largest being of 8-in. aperture; but his process of polishing (a long and difficult one, conducted under water) enabled him to produce a "black" polish on the surfaces rarely met with.

At the International Exhibition of 1862 Mr. Dallmeyer showed that he had turned his attention to the construction and improvement of the photographic lens, and it is in "photographic optics" that he chiefly proved himself a thorough master of his subject, and rendered such important services to photography in all its branches.

His improvements in lenses for all kinds of work, and for